

## SPRECKELS HOME AGAIN

THE SAN FRANCISCO MILLION-  
AIRE TELLS OF HIS PLANS.

To Build a Mammoth Beet-Sugar Re-  
finery That Will Consume 3000  
Tons of Beets Daily.

Claus Spreckels, the great sugar magnate, has returned to San Francisco after an absence of over three months, in which he has traveled over a large part of Europe, studying the manufacture of beet sugar. He says he will begin at once the erection of a beet-sugar factory that will convert 3000 tons of beets per day into sugar, which means the distribution of \$12,000 a day among the farmers of the State of California.

To a reporter who called on him soon after his return home, Mr. Spreckels found time to say: "Yes, I am back at work again. I have had not only a very pleasant outing, but it has not been without its profitable side. You may say that my trip has determined me in my purpose of building a beet-sugar factory. I shall begin the construction at once and by this time next year I expect it to be in full operation, employing 500 to 600 men directly in the refinery and giving an impetus to the growing of sugar beets all over the State. It will be a big thing for the farmers, giving them a ready market for a profitable product. My plans contemplate a refinery that will consume no less than 3000 tons of beets per day. At \$4 a ton this contemplates the distribution among the farmers of the State of the neat round sum of \$12,000 a day.

"The journey was taken almost solely with the purpose of studying the beet sugar industry at its best development at its home in Europe," continued Mr. Spreckels. "I visited many of the biggest and most modern refineries in the world where they are to be found in France, Germany and Austria. I became convinced that it is the thing for California. I have purchased a number of patents on the beet processes and am ready to get into the manufacture on a large scale.

"Indeed," continued Mr. Spreckels, "there is no reason why California should not manufacture the sugar for this big Nation of ours. If the people will only stir themselves, this State would take its place in the front rank of all the States, where her resources entitle her to be. Some day it will do that, I am sure—even though I may not live to see it. For the present I would like to see the people move in the enterprises I have mentioned, and not lag behind, leaving me to carry the load alone. If the moneyed men of the State would invest it in enterprises giving employment to the people and making a reasonable return, they could help amazingly toward the good work of dispelling the so-called hard times. That indeed is all that is required to put hard times to a sudden rout."

Mr. Spreckels said he could not say just where the factory would be located. A number of practical questions entered into the main question of the location and these could not be answered off hand.

Questioned as to the political situation Mr. Spreckels said: "With regard to politics I have only to say that I have confidence in the people of the United States. We have had an experience. It is a great teacher. The majority of the voters of the Nation are not fools. McKinley will be elected."

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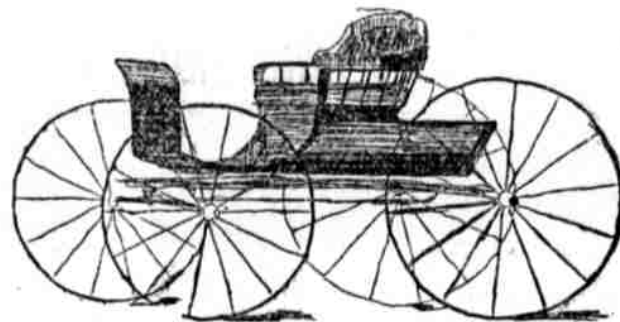
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